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PERU: GULF-LINKED ATTACK

The leftist Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement (MRTA) February 5 carried out an attack at the Peruvian subsidiary of a US-owned security company that provides protection for Embassy Lima, according to press reports. The assault killed three and wounded seven, all apparently Peruvian nationals. Leaflets at the scene condemned US intervention in the Gulf.

Comment: This is the first lethal attack in Latin America linked to the Gulf war. Although MRTA has never killed any US personnel, it appears to be ready to cross the threshold. The group's daylight rocket attack on Embassy Lima in late January was almost certainly designed to cause serious US casualties. (CONFIDENTIAL)

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COMMENTS: Please call analyst (Tim Stater) at home with any new information on this attack.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW AUTHORITY: JOHN L. MILLS DATE/CASE ID: 28 JAN 2002 199700918 1991 Peru Terrorusm

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PERU: TERRORISTS PROTEST ANTI-DRUG PACT

Suspected Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movmement (MRTA) terrorists on April 29 fired a home-made rocket at the presidential palace while President Fujimori was inside, causing minor damage and no injuries, according to press reports. Three days earlier, dynamite attacks by Sendero Luminoso caused substantial damage to properties linked to two Peruvian officials--Hernando de Soto and Finance Minister Bolona--who are intimately involved in negotiating the bilateral anti-narcotics agreement, according to Embassy Lima.

Comment: Both terrorist groups consider the counternarcotics pact as a disguised effort to defeat them. Anti-US targeting could well intensify once the agreement is signed, perhaps within the next few weeks. Sendero has already gone on a week-long spree of bank bombings and selective assassinations in Lima, and will probably attempt to commemorate its eleventh anniversary in mid-May with another wave of violence, which could include foreign diplomatic facilities. (SECRET/NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/ORCON)

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COMMENTS: TNA Schell has Peru BOB with editor; could run FOB at same time.

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